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| 09/830,018 | 06/29/2001 | Leslie John Cass | ADAMS1100 | 9324 |

7590 02/26/2004

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| EXAMINER |
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BORISSOV, IGOR N

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3629

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/830,018

Applicant(s)

CASS, LESLIE JOHN

Examiner

Igor Borissov

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2001.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-71 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-71 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claim 1-43 been renumbered as 29-71.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 29-33, 35-36, 39-44, 46-47, 50-54, 58-63 and 67-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bashan et al. (US 5,339,000).

Bashan et al. (hereinafter Bashan) teaches a method and system for monitoring parked vehicles, comprising:

As per claims 29, 40, 51, 60 and 69,

a hand-held device for monitoring and identifying a vehicle in at least one parking zone, the device including input means for feeding input identification

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particulars of a vehicle parked in a parking zone into the device (column 5, lines 42-45); communication means for receiving reference identification particulars of vehicles communicated from a remote station to the device (column 6, lines 21-26); storage means for storing said reference identification particulars column 6, lines 4-8); timing means for timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone (column 6, lines 14-15); processor means connected to the input means and to the storage means, the processor means including comparator means for comparing the input identification particulars with the reference identification particulars, the processor means being operable to calculate a monetary amount due for parking for said duration in the parking zone so that the device functions as a parking meter (column 8, lines 12-25); signal generation means for selectively generating a warning signal in response to said comparison (column 4, lines 32-34); display means (column 6, lines 55-61); and monetary receiving means for receiving the monetary amount due (column 11, lines 55-61).

As per claims 30, 41, 53 and 62, said method and system, wherein the monetary receiving means includes card reading means for reading information stored on a card and feeding it to the processor means for processing payment electronically (column 11, lines 55-61).

As per claims 31 and 42, see **claims 1 and 40**.

As per claims 32 and 43, said method and system, wherein the identification particulars are displayed on the display means (column 6, lines 18-20).

As per claims 33 and 44, said method and system, including a printer for printing a hard-copy of selected data (column 6, lines 9-10).

As per claims 35-36, 46-47, 52, 54, 61 and 63, said method and system, wherein the input means includes a reader capable of reading in a wireless fashion a tag device in or on the vehicle, the tag device carrying the said identification particulars of the vehicle (column 5, lines 52-55).

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As per claims 39, 50 and 70, said method and system, wherein the reference identification particulars are reference identification particulars of stolen vehicles (column 6, lines 25-26).

As per claims 59 and 68, said method and system, wherein the remote station includes alternate communication means for communicating with other databases (column 6, lines 21-26).

As per claim 71, said method and system, wherein a communication means are provided for receiving reference identification particulars of vehicles communicated from a remote station to the device (column 6, lines 21-26).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 34 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bashan in view of Hjelmvik et al. (WO 98/30982).

As per claims 34 and 45, Bashan teaches all the limitations of **claims 34 and 45**, except that said input means includes a keypad via which the identification particulars of the vehicle and the parking zone are manually entered.

Hjelmvik et al. teaches a method and system for monitoring parked vehicles, including a hand-held unit equipped with a keyboard by means of which a registration number can be entered manually (column 8, lines 25-27).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bashan to include that said hand-held unit

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equipped with a keyboard by means of which a registration number can be entered manually, because it would enhance the redundancy of the system by allowing to operate the system when wireless downloading of said identification particulars of the vehicle is not possible.

Claims 37-38 and 48-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bashan in view of Ganot (US 5,166,680).

As per claims 37-38 and 48-49, Bashan teaches all the limitations of **claims 37-38 and 48-49**, except specifically teaching device-enabling means for selectively enabling the device by means of a password.

Ganot teaches a method and system for portable parking meter device, wherein a password is used to prevent unauthorized use of said device (column 9, lines 3-12).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bashan to include that a password is used to prevent unauthorized use of said device, because it would enhance the security of the system.

Claims 55-57 and 64-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bashan in view of Vazvan (WO 97/19568).

As per claims 55-56 and 64-65, Bashan teaches all the limitations of **claims 55-56 and 64-65**, except that the system includes a plurality of remote stations associated with parking zones, each remote station being in wireless communication with an associated remote station, wherein said telecommunication network is a cellular telephone network.

Vazvan teaches a mobile parking method and system, including a plurality of remote computers (parking databases) associated with parking zones, and

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wherein each remote computer is in wireless communication with a hand-held device, such as a cell phone (page 2, lines 9-22).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bashan to include a plurality of remote stations adapted to be in wireless communications with a cell phones, because it would allow to employ said system in the areas not equipped with alternative communication means.

As per claims 57 and 66, Vazvan teaches said method and system, wherein said reference identification particulars are downloaded by means of SMS messaging (page 1, lines 1-3).

Claims 58 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bashan.

As per claims 58 and 67, Bashan teaches all the limitations of **claims 58 and 67**, including use of communication network, except specifically teaching that said communication network includes the Internet.

Official notice is taken that it is well known that the Internet is a worldwide collection of network and gateways that use the TCP/IP suite of protocols to communicate with one another (Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 4th Edt.; 1999).

Therefor, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bashan to include that said communication network includes the Internet, because posting said reference identification particulars, including information about stolen vehicles, on the Web would make said information instantly available to a plurality of control stations or Internet-enabled hand-held devices, thereby make it more convenient for the users.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

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applicant's disclosure (see form PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Igor Borissov at telephone number (703) 305-4649.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 872-9306.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John Weiss, can be reached at (703) 308-2702.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

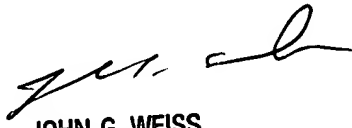
Washington D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 [Official communications; including After Final communications labeled "Box AF"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 7th floor receptionist.

JP


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